
RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES MANUAL

FAMILY INDEPENDENCE PROGRAM

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

SECTION 0802

REFERRAL TO FRONT-END DETECTION (FRED) UNIT 0802.25

REV:05/1997

Agency representatives who note cases which exhibit an indication of questionable eligibility under the criteria of the indicators listed in Section 0802.25.05 must refer these cases to the FRED Unit.

Cases must exhibit at least one of the stated indicators in order to be investigated. The eligibility worker must inform the applicant that the information in the Statement of Need is being verified and that eligibility will be determined within thirty (30) days. Following receipt of the referral FRED investigators will make an unannounced home visit. The investigators will identify themselves as DHS representatives and will possess a DHS photo I.D. card to offer for identification purposes.

Findings by the investigators must be as well documented as any information currently gathered for an administrative hearing or court appearances. FRED investigators will present these findings at any administrative hearing or court appearance resulting from a denial or termination of assistance which occurred pursuant to a pre-eligibility investigation.

The FRED Unit must return its findings to the eligibility unit supervisor no later than ten (10) business days from the date the referral was forwarded. In order for the eligibility worker to determine eligibility properly and/or the correct assistance payment, the FRED Unit must include an explanation of its findings and attach appropriate supporting documentation to the response.

If the FRED Unit does not respond within the ten (10) business day time frame, the eligibility worker will determine the applicant's (in)eligibility based on the information contained in the case record.

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~~SECTION 0802 THE APPLICATION PROCESS~~

~~0802.25.05 FRED Referral Indicators~~

~~REV:01/2002~~

~~In general, eligibility workers should be aware of and note discrepancies and contradictions in written and verbal statements made by the applicant. A referral to the FRED Unit should be made when one or more of the specific indicators below are present:~~

- ~~* Fixed expenses (rent, utilities, etc.) exceed income and no reasonable explanation is given;~~
- ~~* Previously unreported changes in the household and/or false statements given;~~
- ~~* Previously unreported employment/earnings;~~
- ~~* Applicant unable to show any means of support for the last three (3) months prior to application for assistance;~~
- ~~* Moved to Rhode Island in the past three (3) months (except for Refugees);~~
- ~~* Assets appear greater than those reported; or~~
- ~~* Does not appear that child(ren) is with applicant parent.~~